

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Attached is a replacement sheet of drawing figure, including Fig. 1, which should replace the originally filed drawing sheet, which includes Fig. 1. Fig. 1 has been amended to include proper cross-hatching for the left end portion of the master cylinder piston 18a and to delete the unnumbered port in the cylinder 15 located between the lead lines for reference numerals 43c and 43f.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

The specification has been amended to correct the typographical errors pointed out in paragraph "2" on page two of the Official Action. Also, a new Abstract of the Disclosure is presented which meets the 150 word limit.

In light of the amendments to the specification, withdrawal of the objections to the disclosure is respectfully requested.

Also submitted with this Amendment is a new version of Fig. 1 in which cross-hatching has been provided for the left end of the master cylinder piston 18a. With respect to the other issue raised in the Official Action concerning Fig. 1, the undersigned spoke with Examiner Sy on April 6, 2005 to obtain clarification on this matter. Examiner Sy kindly explained that the cylinder 15 contains an unnumbered port between the lead lines for reference numerals 43c and 43f. That unnumbered port has been deleted.

In light of the changes to Fig. 1, withdrawal of the drawing objections is respectfully requested.

As a final point, Claims 1 and 3-6 have been amended to provide proper antecedent basis for the various recitations noted in paragraph "5" of the Official Action. These claim amendments do not narrow the claim scope as they merely set forth that which was originally recited in the claims.

Withdrawal of the claim rejection based on the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 is respectfully.

All of the issues raised in the Official Action have been addressed.

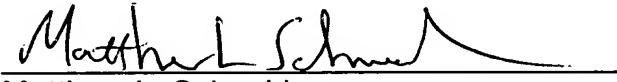
Accordingly, early and favorable action with respect to this application is respectfully requested.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: April 7, 2005

By: 
Matthew L. Schneider
Registration No. 32,814

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620